



H.M.S.

TROUTBRIDGE

Commissioning Booklet

Some background history

H.M.S. **TROUTBRIDGE** is named after HMS Troubridge a 'sister ship' from the T Class destroyers, Admiral Sir Thomas Troubridge (1758-1807) was a contemporary of Nelson whose promotions across the years was very much down to a Sea Lord by the name of Pertwee. Troubridge became a famous fighting Admiral and gained renown when at the battle of Cape St Vincent in 1797 he joined Nelson in attacking the Spanish ship **San-tissimaTrinidad**, the largest ship in the world. Nelson said of him that he was 'the very best Sea-officer in His Majesty's Service'; whereas Pertwee started his own ship building company close to Bucklers Yard in Hampshire knowing he could find a ready supply of timber and stay onshore.

At the battle of the Nile Troutbridge went aground in the **Culloden**, thanks, in no small part, to a young navigator straight from Greenwich called Phillips and here he also witnessed the sinking of the French ship **L 'Orient** which was filled with a consignment of Mymummim's famous puddings as well as with treasures looted by Napoleon from the Knights of St John at Malta, but a ready market for the horse drawn ambulances was not easy to find at sea so Pertwee had them converted into Shepherd's Huts for Westminster politicians.

Troubridge became Commander-in-Chief East Indies, finally losing his life when his ship was sunk in a cyclone off Madagascar. They set sail after Mikel Fillet (Great grandfather of the television meteorologist) had indicated that the prevailing trade winds would shorten their journey considerably. This was certainly the case. There has been one previous **TROUBRIDGE**—(1804-1808) a ship of 16 guns, it was meant to have 24 guns, but for some reason 8 never arrived due to the paperwork mix up at Chatham. She was in action against the French, and against privateers in the Napoleonic Wars when they upped their prices for smuggle.

The present **TROUTBRIDGE** served in the Mediterranean where she took part in the invasion of the South of France in August 1944. She was heading for Ventnor at the time, but the chief engineer had no idea how to shut the engines down. She was present at the Japanese surrender in Tokyo Bay having rammed the Emperor's barge and then towed it round the harbour twice before it sank. Troutbridge is a converted XV Frigate built in 1956 and has no option but to undergo further extensive refits to keep it afloat.

Foreword

Lieutenant Commander Stanton, Royal Navy

Welcome to *TROUTBRIDGE*

We are due to commission H.M.S. *TROUTBRIDGE* at 1900hrs on
Sunday 29th March 1959 on the BBC Light Programme
Brexit negotiations will be suspended 60 years later especially for this event.
This booklet is intended to give you, your family and friends, some idea of the ship.

For the first part of our commission we expect to be operating mainly from the Island Draft site just off Portsmouth but must be ready for any emergency should the local MOD surplus stores have a run on tin food, clothing, furniture as well as fresh fish at the local cafes.

There are occasional possibilities of visits to The Solent, The Isle of Wight and the English Channel with paying guests if the opportunity arises once the engineer has ironed out a few teething problems with his understanding of the ship's propulsion equipment.

Later in the year we can expect to be nearer the occasional creek, cause havoc and crash in to a Lighthouse or sandbank and the odd car ferry. We look forward to bumping old friends at the Spithead Review not forgetting Navy Days in The Dockyard.

The sea has formed the
English character, and the
essential England is to be found
in those who follow it. . . .
The sea endures no makeshifts.
If a thing is not exactly right, it will be vastly wrong.

John Buchan (1875-1940)
Naval Episodes

AMENITIES

Canteen

Times of opening are displayed on the door Avoid Fatso's suet puddings.

Laundry

We have a laundry - details are given in the Ship's Orders (Pertwee has a quayside deal going – count your socks out and in).

Library

The Ship's Library is in the CM(E)'s Office it has a wide selection of comics and scouting diaries with maps as well as 'Girls, Giggles and Garters'.

DANGER

Life and limb will be endangered if you:

- (a) Step inside the red circle around the 4-in or Bofors mountings it is regularly used for smuggle..
Climb the Director Ladders without permission – The Pertwee family have this as an operations centre.
Walk under the mortar barrels.
(They may fall without warning – someone has nicked the bolts.)
- (b) Go aloft without permission of Number One, someone has been selling electricity to the fairground.
- (c) Smoke in a fuel or ammunition danger area unless you've bought your tobacco off Pertwee.
- (d) Lean on the ropes between remaining guardrails not yet sold off.

ENTERTAINMENTS

The Entertainments Officer (CPO Pertwee) is responsible for all forms of entertainment. He will welcome any ideas and the use of 'The Comfort Fund' count the picture cards in all packs and check the numbers on the bingo balls.

Details of programmes can be found in the Ship's Orders. If you have any suggestions see the Number 1 he is trying to run an honest ship.

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Tombola

Times of playing will be promulgated in the Daily Orders.

Cinema

Midshipman Taffy Evans runs the films. He will welcome any suggestions.

FIRE

If you find a fire, you must at once:

Try to put it out – plenty of water out of the window;

Shout for help, there is just a chance someone else will be on board ship if we are docked.

Telephone the QM in harbour or the Officer of the Watch at sea.

FAMILIES DAYS

We hope to be able to take our families and friends to sea for the day from time to time during the commission, there is no charge regardless of what a certain CPO may tell you.

KEYS

Your department holds all your keys. Return them to the Departmental Keyboard as soon as you have finished with them do not let them out of your sight.

There have been a number of unexplained locked doors found open with duplicate keys of late. The Magazine and Important Keyboard is in the charge of the Officer of the Day or Officer of the Watch (this will never be any Pertwee on board ship)

LIFE RAFTS

A number of 20-man life rafts with survival packs are hopefully still situated around the upper deck. On being released they should automatically inflate but be suspicious if you see balloons for sale on the quayside at any time. Everyone will be instructed in their use but keep vigilant as repurposed rafts are used as dockyard tours in summer.

MEDICAL AND DENTAL

Urgent cases can be dealt with at any time when the surgeon isn't in the pub.. Fresh cases are examined each morning after his first drink and cases requiring treatment are dealt with at Alexandra Hospital or Haslar military hospital if we can get across the water to it.

ORDERS

Orders affecting everyone are:

ABCD Orders, Ship's Orders.

Departmental Orders include:

Communications (Flags)

Electrical, and Weapons

Radio (Evans)

Engineering (Queeg)

Gunnery (Johnson)

Navigation and Direction (Phillips)

Supply and Secretariat (Pertwee)

Torpedo and Anti-Submarine (Price)

Included in
Ship's Standing Orders

QUERIES

Your Divisional Officer will always be available if you wish to sort out a problem with him. and Captain Stanton will be glad to see anyone privately- normally seated at the stern with a fishing line...

RECREATION

Sub Lieutenant Phillips is the Sports Officer. He will be assisted by the Sports Committee in which there will be a volunteered representative for each sport. We aim to play as often as possible and as many different sports as possible with the single plastic ball we have.





SQUADRON

We shall form part of the Submarine Escort Squadron. The other ships will be:

HMS MAKEPEACE

HMS VARSITY

The POPPADOM

SMOKING

Smoking is normally allowed providing it does not hamper your work, but it is not allowed when it would be:""

- (a) Dangerous - e.g. during refuelling or ammunitioning.
- (b) Unhygienic - e.g. in galleys or when storing.
- (c) Out of place - e.g. on duty or during ceremonial.

TRAINING CLASSES

The Sub Lieutenant is the Training Officer. We shall put much emphasis on training and advancement and everyone will be encouraged to get ahead as much as possible. All programmes can be found in Sea Scout diaries.

VISITORS

Visitors are welcome aboard providing a request has been granted and Security and Local Orders permit. The Captain will always be glad to meet families and friends provided that he is not fishing at the aft of the ship

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are required for the Welfare Committee, Sports Representatives, Tombola Committee, SRE Operators, Cinema Operators, Barber - names should be given to the CPO Pertwee and Fatso will be your best friend for ever.

DAMAGE CONTROL

Know your ship, her equipment and the meanings of the ABCD markings, Mr Phillips needs every pair of eyes available when leaving port or attempting to park Troutbridge.

SHIP'S OFFICERS

Sea Lord Stephen Murray

Admiral Tenniel Evans
Admiral Clarke-Mantovich Michael Bates
Admiral Clunthorpe Tenniel Evans
Admiral Ffont Bittocks Tenniel Evans
Admiral Ironbridge Michael Bates
Admiral Potter-Jenkins Michael Bates
Admiral Troutbridge Ronnie Barker Michael Bates

First Officer Peuce Heather Chasen

C in C Stephen Murray

Captain Richard Caldicot
Captain Acheson Michael Bates
Captain Algy 'Dingalong' Gaylord Michael Bates
Captain Angus McDoom Leslie Phillips
Captain Atcheson Michael Bates
Captain Bell Ronnie Barker
Captain Grubshaw Michael Bates
Captain Hardcastle Ronnie Barker
Captain Jarvis Michael Bates
Captain Norris Michael Bates
Captain Ormanroyd Lawrie Wyman
Captain Tingley-Painter (Tingley-Pointer) Michael Bates
Captain Titchwell Lawrie Wyman

Lieutenant Bates Michael Bates
Lieutenant Bird Ronnie Barker
Lieutenant Birkett Michael Bates
Lieutenant Claude Clarke, Australian Navy Michael Bates
Lieutenant Commander Bates Michael Bates
Lieutenant Commander Stanton Ronnie Barker
Lieutenant Deacon Tenniel Evans
Lieutenant Dingle Michael Bates
Lieutenant Evans Tenniel Evans
Lieutenant Hunter Michael Bates
Lieutenant Murray (Number 1)
Lieutenant Parfitt Ronnie Barker
Lieutenant Perkins Ronnie Barker
Lieutenant Peregrine Pertwee Michael Bates
Lieutenant Pike Ronnie Barker
Lieutenant Plummer Michael Bates
Lieutenant Price, No.1 Dennis Price
Lieutenant Queeg Ronnie Barker, Chic Murray
Lieutenant Sharp Tenniel Evans
Lieutenant Thompson Michael Bates
Lieutenant Trent Ronnie Barker

Vice Admiral Belter Michael Bates
Vice Admiral Burwisher Jon Pertwee
Vice Admiral Buttenshaw Jon Pertwee
Vice Admiral Buttonshaw Jon Pertwee
Vice Admiral Grimshaw Jon Pertwee
Vice Admiral Ironbridge Michael Bates
Vice Admiral Prout Michael Bates

Rear Admiral Arlington-Belt Ronnie Barker
Rear Admiral Evans Michael Bates
Rear Admiral Ironbridge Michael Bates

Commander Shaw Michael Bates
Commander Trotter Alan Reeve-Jones
Commander Ward Ronnie Barker
Commander Wetherby Jon Pertwee
Commanding Officer Jon Pertwee
Commander Abicaire, Australian Navy Tenniel Evans
Commander Bell Ronnie Barker
Commander Bracewell Ronnie Barker, Michael Bates
Commander Fairbody Jon Pertwee
Commander Pearson Tenniel Evans
Commander Henry Povey (Captain) Richard Caldicot
Commander Shaw Michael Bates
Commander Trotter Alan Reeve-Jones
Commander Ward Ronnie Barker
Commander Wetherby Jon Pertwee
Commanding Officer Jon Pertwee

Petty Officer Perkins Michael Bates
Petty Officer Pertwee Jersey Tenniel Evans
Petty Officer Potter Michael Bates
Petty Officer Timson Jon Pertwee

Sub Lieutenant Leslie Phillips Leslie Phillips

No.1 Tenniel Evans
No 3 Richard Caldicot
No 2 Michael Bates

Officer Ronnie Barker, Tenniel Evans
Engineer Ronnie Barker, Michael Bates, Chic Murray
Gunnery Officer Ronnie Barker

COXSWAIN

Michael Bates, Tenniel Evans

COMMUNICATIONS

Flags Michael Bates
Intelligence Man Ronnie Barker
Operator Tenniel Evans
Ops Room Rating Michael Bates
Tannoy Michael Bates
Tannoy Voice Richard Caldicot
Telephone Answerer Heather Chasen
Telephone Operator Michael Bates, Heather Chasen, Judy Cornwell, Fenella Fielding

MEDICAL

Medical Orderly Michael Bates

Nurse Heather Chasen

SEAMAN

Orderly Michael Bates, Tenniel Evans

Leading Seaman Harper Nigel Graham
Leading Seaman Whyatt Tenniel Evans

Able Seaman Jeremiah 'Fatso' Johnson (later Leading Seaman) Ronnie Barker
Able Seaman Ginger Michael Bates
Able Seaman Simpson Nigel Graham
Able Seaman 'Taffy' Goldstein (later Leading Seaman) Tenniel Evans
Able Seaman Tiddy Lawrie Wyman

Rating Ronnie Barker, Michael Bates, Tenniel Evans

Cadet Ronnie Barker
Cadet 1 Michael Bates
Cadet 2 Tenniel Evans
Sea Cadet Horace Willoughby-Gore Michael Bates

SUPPLY AND SECRETARIAT

Leading Wren Pertwee Heather Chasen
Wren Janet Brown, Heather Chasen
Wren Barrett April Walker
Wren Judy Cornwell Judy Cornwell
Wren Heather Chasen Heather Chasen
Wren Simpkins Heather Chasen
Wren Tompkins Heather Chasen
Wren Vera Penfold, Elizabeth Morgan, Norma Ronald

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